

RESEARCH PAPER

Relative participation of farm women in decision making process in relation to different agriculture practices

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ABSTRACT

Participation of farm women in decision making about different agriculture activities is different from practice to practice. Women had more participated in decision making regarding interculturing and marketing. As participation of farm women in decision making certainly effect by their various constraints prevailing in their situations among them social/cultural norms, lack of self confidence in decision were the major constraints. To encounter such constraints major suggestions offered by farm women were more technical guidance regarding scientific farming should be given to them and training should be imparted at grass root level.

Key Words : Participation, Decision making

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Decision making is an important aspect of daily life. Achievement of family goals depends upon effective decision making and task performing which involves coordination, supervision and checking of actions. Women from rural areas are engaged in farm operations right from land preparation to marketing as well as allied activities. Women are key players in the agricultural sector of most developing countries of the world. However, despite this major role, men have reportedly continued to dominate farm decision making, even in areas where women are the largest providers of farm labour. This could be counter-productive, because there is bound to be conflict when women, as key players, carry out farm tasks with out being part of the decision process, especially when the decisions fail to recognize their other peculiar household responsibilities.

Women's participation in decision making varies among the different practices depends on social, cultural and economic conditions in the area. It also varies from region to

region and even within a region, their involvement varies widely among different farming systems, castes, classes and socio-economic status. Keeping in view the importance of decision making by farmwomen in agricultural development, present study was conducted with following objectives : To study the relative participation of farm women in decision making process in relation to different agriculture practices. To know the constraints faced by farm women and suggestions made by them to encounter such constraints while participation in decision making process.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in Anand district of Gujarat. Five villages from each three talukas having maximum numbers of small and marginal farmers were selected purposively. Randomly eight farm women from each village were selected for study and hence in all, 120 farm women were selected to

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